

Sustainable Futures Champions

*Help create a more sustainable
future for our children by becoming
a Sustainable Futures Champion.*



 **TSL**
TRUST for SUSTAINABLE LIVING



The Trust for Sustainable Living essay competition and debates

The project is a leading international children's essay competition and debate, focused on improving understanding of global sustainability challenges. Our focus is on building the capacity of both teachers and students to engage with these issues. Primary and secondary school children from around the world are invited to submit an essay on a different sustainability topic each year, with the support of 'Teacher Champions'.

Participants are then invited to attend an annual Debate and Awards event, held in the UK, the Seychelles and UAE to date. This is a unique opportunity to come together to share ideas and experiences, and to learn about sustainability issues through debates, project visits and workshops.

What we have achieved so far

'I see myself as a marine biologist working with young children. Educating them, showing them how to fight for their country and help to protect their environment.' **Secondary school student Anthea Laurence from the Seychelles was inspired by writing essays and attending the debates to go on to pursue a career in environmental conservation.**



More than 5,500 participating children and teachers have benefitted so far, with over 1,000 of these children and teachers going on to take part in the debate and award events. The 2017 event was the largest so far with over 200 participants from more than 30 countries.

A survey of participants in the April 2016 event in Dubai showed that 100% of participants rated the knowledge gained from the event as good, very good or excellent, and 100% had increased confidence in teaching and sharing their voice on sustainable development issues.

The project has had a transformative effect on child participants as well as their teachers and parents. Children have increased confidence and are inspired to pursue their interests in sustainable development. This is leading to social change as the participants become leaders and activists in this field.

Plans for the future

With additional financial support we will be able to focus on capacity building for educators and child learners, and scaling up the programme's impact and reach by:

- Increasing our reach to benefit 10,000 children and teachers by 2020
- Improving teacher training opportunities
- Developing teacher-led sustainability knowledge and action networks to support community level learning for children, teachers and parents
- Developing online resources to support year-round learning
- Extending project visits and learning opportunities at the debate event

Become a Sustainable Futures Champion

Our Sustainable Futures Champions Club has been set up in response to interest from parents and guardians of children taking part in the competition and debate.

With additional support from Sustainable Futures Champions we will be able to continue to build a network of children around the world who are passionate about Sustainable Living and want to work together to create change. **In return for your support, each year you renew your membership you will receive:**

- A membership certificate
- Recognition on the Sustainable Futures Champions area of our new Trust for Sustainable Living website
- Sustainable Futures Champions email updates and networking opportunities
- Priority booking for your child to attend our debate events
- A free place to attend the debates yourself (usual cost £90 for an additional adult)
- Free family entry to our Living Rainforest UK Visitor Centre

'The advantages for these young people cannot really be over emphasized because the future belongs to them and the earlier they start to prepare for their future the better chance they have.'

Anthony Ogbo, Emmaus & Ignatius Home School, Nigeria

Membership form

Yes, I would like to become a standard member and enclose payment of £200 for the first year of membership. **£200 could help give children a life changing experience by attending our debate and events in 2018.**

Yes, I would like to become a gold member and enclose payment of £500 for the first year of membership. **£500 could pay for one of our inspiring visits as part of the debates. In 2016 we visited Masdar City in Dubai – the world's first sustainable city.**

I am considering becoming a member, please keep me informed.

Name:

Address:

Email:

Phone (inc. country code):

I would like to pay by:

cash cheque credit/debit card bank transfer

*Please make cheques payable to The Trust for Sustainable Living. Our account details to pay by bank transfer are account number 80991157, sort code 55 81 26. Please return this form to Ruth Larkin, the Trust for Sustainable Living/Living Rainforest, Hampstead Norreys, Newbury, Berkshire, RG18 0TN, UK. Card payments can be made in person or over the phone. **Please note that membership is not linked in any way to the judging of the competition and debates.***

The Trust for Sustainable Living is a charity aiming to further understanding of sustainable living in the UK and abroad through high-quality education. In addition to the International Schools Essay competition and Debate, the Trust runs the Living Rainforest Centre in the UK, bringing rainforests to life for more than 90,000 visitors a year. TSL has been a champion and pioneer of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in the UK and around the world since it was founded in 2001.

Tel: 01635 202 444
Email: enquiries@livingrainforest.org
Visit: www.livingrainforest.org

Registered Charity No. 1085057

 **TSL**
TRUST for SUSTAINABLE LIVING